

Serial No.: 09/399,902

Attorney Docket No. 99P7816

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 1-14 are pending. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to more particularly point out Applicants' invention.

Claims 1-6, 9-10, and 12-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Carcarano et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,308,205 ("Carcarano"). In order for there to be anticipation, each and every element of the claimed invention must be present in a single, prior reference. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is not taught, suggested, or implied by Carcarano.

In particular, an aspect of the present invention relates to a configuration system in which configuration information may be received from some units and propagated to others. As described in the Specification, in one embodiment, an Auto-Discovery Unit is provided wherein an administrator may input a series of Internal Protocol (IP) addresses inside which the system exists. The Auto-Discovery Unit steps through the IP addresses testing to determine whether a machine exists at the address. If a machine is found, an exploration process is undertaken wherein attempts are made to contact a Responder Unit on each machine. The Responder Unit accepts configuration information and returns a set of objects describing the hardware and software components of the machine. The Auto-Discovery Unit then stores this information. The process is repeated automatically at scheduled intervals.

In addition, when a system component is discovered, the Auto-Discovery Unit determines whether any other component is interested in this type of data. If so, this specific information is added to the distributed information. For example, assume component A is interested in the location of component B. After component B is located, then the next time component A is located, it will be told the location of component B. Furthermore, component B may be moved to another machine at some point. When component B is discovered again at that new location, component A will be notified of the new location of component B. The system can either be pre-configured with the type of information that components are interested in or it can be set by the

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administrator.

Thus, claim 1 has been amended to recite

wherein said server is further configured to automatically determine which others of said configurable components is interested in configuration information associated with said configurable components and propagate said configuration information to said others of said configurable components;

and claim 10 has been amended to recite:

automatically determining which others of said plurality of telephony devices is interested in said configuration information of said plurality of telephony devices;

automatically propagating said configuration information to said others of said plurality of telephony devices at predetermined intervals

In contrast, Carcarano appears to merely relate to updating the configuration information for devices on an individual or device-by-device basis. That is, to update a device, the user sends a request to update a particular "targeted" device and the updated configuration data. The update database is then updated accordingly and the configuration of the targeted device is then updated. See, generally, col. 13, lines 5-15. Carcarano does not, however, appear to relate to automatically determining the configuration information; which components are interested in it; and then automatically propagating it, as generally recited in the claims at issue. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

Claims 7-8, and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Carcarano. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is not taught, suggested, or implied by Carcarano. As noted above, Carcarano does not teach, suggest, or imply the invention of the base claims.. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Carcarano likewise does not teach, suggest, or imply the invention of these dependent claims. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

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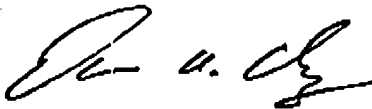
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For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully requested,

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